

REMARKS

"Arbiter" has been changed to "asynchronous arbiter" throughout the claims to direct the claims specifically to asynchronous systems and methods.

Applicants have elected to amend the original claims solely for the purpose of prosecuting amended claims in this application. These amended claims better encompass the full scope and breadth of certain aspects of the present invention, notwithstanding applicants' belief that the original claims directed to these aspects would have been allowable. It is submitted, therefore, that no claims have been narrowed within the meaning of *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2000).

Favorable consideration and an early allowance of this application is requested.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (once amended) A network system comprising:
a plurality of resources, some of which being
incompatible with others;
a network interconnecting the resources;
5 an asynchronous arbiter resident in each of the
resources for sending messages via the network and for
receiving messages via the network wherein each arbiter
independently reviews and processes the messages from other
arbiters of other resources so that the resources
10 communicate directly with each other without the need for a
master controlling program and without the need for other
gateway for controlling and processing the messages as the
messages are transmitted between resources.

14. (once amended) A message system for transmitting
messages on a network between resources interconnected by
the network, said message system comprising:

5 an asynchronous arbiter resident in each of the
resources for sending messages via the network and for
receiving messages via the network, each said arbiter
independently reviewing and processing the messages so that
the resources communicate directly with each other without
the need for a master controlling program and without the
10 need for other gateway for controlling and processing the
messages as the messages are transmitted between resources.

15. (once amended) An inter process peer to peer
messaging system for communicating between a plurality of
networked resources, some of which employ operating systems
which are incompatible with each other, said system
5 comprising:

an asynchronous arbiter message originator associated
with each of the resources for providing an arbiter message

to be sent to the other resources, the arbiter message
instructing one of the other resources to execute one or
10 more of the following: remote program execution, data
transport, message communication, status communication,
arbiter identification, data encryption, message encryption,
and relocation of computer resources;

a message arbiter receiver associated with each
15 resource for receiving the arbiter messages from the other
resources and for responding to the received arbiter message
by executing one or more of the following: retransmitting
the arbiter message to another one of the resources; and
deciphering, interpreting and executing the received arbiter
20 message wherein the arbiter message originator and the
arbiter message receiver do the actual communication between
their respective resources without the need for a master
controlling program and without the need for other gateway
for controlling and processing the messages as the messages
25 are transmitted between resources.

16. (once amended) An inter process peer to peer
messaging process for communicating between a plurality of
networked resources, some of which employ operating systems
which are incompatible with each other, said process
5 comprising the steps of:

transmitting an asynchronous arbiter message from one
resource to the other resources, the arbiter message
instructing one of the other resources to execute one or
more of the following: remote program execution, data
10 transport, message communication, status communication,
arbiter identification, data encryption and message
encryption and relocation of computer resources; and

receiving the arbiter messages from the other resources
and for responding to the received arbiter message by
15 executing one or more of the following: retransmitting the
asynchronous arbiter message to another one of the

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resources; and interpreting and executing the received
arbiter message wherein the actual communication between
their respective resources is accomplished without the need
for a master controlling program and without the need for
other gateway for controlling and processing the messages as
the messages are transmitted between resources.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any
underpayment and credit any overpayment of government fees to
Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,

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